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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Annual Summary — Page

I. Part One..... 1

Planning..... 1

Economic Trends..... 2

Employment Trends..... 2
- Seasonal Hired Workers..... 2
- Regular Hired Farm Workers..... 3
- Food Processing Workers..... 4

Impact of Mechanization and Other Changes in Production Methods..... 4
- Impact of Mechanization..... 4
- Regular Hired Farm Workers..... 4

Recruitment of Farm Workers..... 5
- Housing..... 5
- Wages..... 6
- Foreign Workers..... 6

Area Redevelopment Activities..... 6

Public Relations..... 7

Evaluation and Recommendations..... 7

II. Part Two..... 8

Area 9-27.01..... 8

Area 9-27.02..... 9

Area 9-27.03..... 9

Area 9-27.04..... 10

Data on Farm Placement Operations in 1962..... 11

Day-haul Activities, by Town..... 12

Employment of Seasonal Hired Workers, by Month..... 13

Expected Use of Seasonal Hired Workers, by Month..... 14

Interstate Agricultural Migrant Activities in 1962..... 15

Interstate Seasonal Agricultural Clearance Activities in 1962..... 16

Crop Production - 1962 - Montana..... 17

III. Attachments of Special Harvest Bulletin and Weekly Farm Labor Bulletin

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PART I
ANNUAL SUMMARY

PLANNING

A. Changes in Administrative Organization

No changes were made in administrative organization except in personnel. The present Farm Placement Supervisor replaced the previous Farm Placement Supervisor in August, 1962. The O and M "plans of action" are prepared by each local office on a quarterly basis, thereby enabling each office to prepare pre-season plans thirty days prior to the seasonal activities.

B. Pre-Season and In-Season Meetings

State and local office Farm Placement personnel participated in growers' and processors' pre-season meetings.

Farm Placement personnel, as heretofore, continued to work throughout the year with county and state Extension Services, Montana State Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation County Committees, and local farm organizations.

C. Special Arrangement for Recruitment made in Cooperation with Other Government Agencies in Other States.

Orders for sugar beet workers were placed in clearance with the state of Texas. In accordance with an agreement of several years, the Colorado Agency recruited workers in Texas for the Holly Sugar Corporation.

A special meeting was consummated with the South Dakota Agency regarding recruitment in adjoining Montana counties.

A special program for youths was continued and expanded over the previous year in the sugar beet activity. Thirty crews of twenty young workers each were organized with the cooperation of the school officials in nine communities. The program as a whole was successful, with various problems developing in some areas, the main problem being an exceptionally wet season. This program is now extended to all beet growing areas of the State, which areas are partially in all agricultural reporting areas of the state.

Indians from nearby reservations were recruited for the sweet corn and potato harvests.

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Major changes in the agricultural economy which had an impact on employment were, first of all, an exceptionally wet season. Extensive moisture throughout most of the state during the growing season caused unusual turnover in youth beet workers whose working schedules were somewhat disrupted. This also caused a record hay crop. The year ended with such mild winter weather that very little feeding of stock was necessary. In contrast, one grain and hay area outside the agricultural reporting areas suffered a dry spell which created the opposite conditions. The general harvest of all crops was 38 per cent above the previous average. Most crop production was above last year, but not always above the previous averages. Livestock conditions were very good.

The season started with a dry spell, but soon changed to ample moisture in most areas of Montana, especially during the growing season. Some areas had difficult harvest conditions due to sporatic rains, but in general the harvest weather was good. More hay and harvest hands were in demand than for 1961. Agricultural employment as a whole was up, except toward the end of the season when extremely mild weather decreased the need for feeders of livestock. The decline of agricultural job opportunities in 1961 compared to 1960 was improved considerably due to an increase of job placements over the high in 1960.

There were no major changes in land utilization in the State in 1962 brought about by participation in production and acreage control programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, nor has expansion of urban development into rural areas caused any significant changes.

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

A. Seasonal Hired Farm Workers

Due to plenty of moisture and good harvesting weather, there was an increase in the number of seasonal workers employed. The largest increase was in wheat, other small grains, and dry land hay harvests. The wet weather was ideal for most crops, especially after a lack of moisture in March and April. Beet thinning and pulling was somewhat hampered by weed and grass overgrowth, but was taken care of by additional hands. The beet, potato, and most other harvests were ahead of schedule, except in certain areas of heavy moisture concentration. A significant increase in hay tonnage required more labor than for previous years. An early September frost had some damaging results, especially to pumpkins (squash) earmarked for the cannery.

Local labor is generally male, Caucasian, and operates from machinery such as tractors, hay bailers, trucks, and small grain combines. They also perform non-agricultural work, as heavy equipment operators, truck drivers, and construction labor.

Females of Caucasian race work as ranch couples or singly as ranch cooks. Non-agricultural employment is generally as cook in a cafe or domestic work. In western Montana, housewives work in the small fruit and berry harvests.

High School youths of both sexes are recruited to hoe and thin sugar beets. Approximately 8,000 interstate male workers are employed in agricultural activities of small grains, haying, and livestock activities. They are of the Caucasion race, single, or unattached. These workers are mostly from California, Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, and Colorado. They also perform non-agricultural work as truck drivers and construction laborers.

Approximately 2,600 interstate workers are employed in the hoeing and thinning of sugar beets. These workers are primarily family groups, and both sexes 14 years and older work. Their main occupation is that of a vegetable farm laborer. The majority of these workers are from Texas and are of Mexican descent. A few of these workers are from Arizona.

Approximately 2,400 male, single, or unattached workers are from Mexico. Their occupation is sugar beet farm hand.

The most significant shortages of seasonal farm workers were in the thinning and hoeing of sugar beets. Mexican Nationals were used to supplement domestic workers. Domestic workers who were available for this activity were from the state of Texas.

Due to lack of pay commensurate with other work activities, lack of unemployment insurance, and excessive travel to reach certain areas in Montana, and the distance to subsequent jobs, Montana is unable to recruit sufficient domestic workers.

There were no significant surplus seasonal farm workers. The influx was normal; some shortages existed at times, but for no significant period of time.

B. Regular Hired Farm Workers

The livestock and dry land small grain activities are the major crops that employ regular hired farm workers. The general trend of employment for 1962 was above previous years. Due to exceptional weather conditions, agricultural activities prospered as a whole.

Mechanization is having its inroads and does decrease needs in some activities, such as mechanized feed lots, etc. However, better farming methods and scientific know-how is producing more from acreages.

Dry land and small grain farms continue to increase in size with the result that more farm machinery is being used. This is true especially in the eastern part of the state. Small acreages persist in western Montana. Many of the larger farms are maintaining large equipment and repair sheds, thus creating demands for skilled mechanical help and heavy machinery operators.

C. Food Processing Workers

Montana has insignificant food processing activities in relation to the general agricultural activities. Part-time workers are hired in the sugar processing areas and in one cannery area. These activities pose no employment problems since part-time workers and housewives are in ample supply.

IMPACT OF MECHANIZATION AND OTHER CHANGES IN PRODUCTION METHODS

A. The growing, care, and processing of sugar beets has been considered the main crop mechanized to the most significant degree in recent years. The harvest as heretofore mentioned in the previous report is about 100 per cent mechanized, and thinning around 45 per cent. Considerable care in the planting of the seeds is important for the subsequent use of mechanical thinners. Seeds of the monogerm type must be placed in the ground at a pre-determined depth and interval of space. The size of the beet seed and cells of the plate in the planter must match. The equipment is simple in construction and does not require specialized knowledge to repair.

In recent years wheat farms have been reduced in number but have doubled in size. This has resulted in the use of larger mechanical equipment for soil preparation, seeding, and summer fallowing, and consequently caused a reduction in the man-hours of work for these activities. The hay pick-up baler and loader has become widely used in most areas of Montana.

Since crops in general were more productive in 1962, there were additional labor requirements over the preceding year. A very small part of this, however, was due to mechanization. It appears mechanization will be eliminating many hundreds in the next four or five years should the present advancement in machinery accelerate as it has been. It is anticipated that the hoeing and thinning of sugar beets will be eliminated in the above-mentioned period. In fact, much thinning has been eliminated so far. Through the use of the monogerm seed, space planting could eventually become a reality, and further developments in the use of herbicides for positive weed control would eliminate any need for hand labor. The workers affected would be the domestic migrant composed of family groups of all ages and sexes. This would also eliminate the need for Mexican Nationals. Local youth, too, would be affected.

B. Regular Hired Farm Workers

It is becoming increasingly necessary that regular farm workers acquire skills in the operation and repair of farm equipment which requires advanced knowledge of operation and repair. Employers expect them to be skilled in operating and repairing the larger tractors and other machinery used in seeding, cultivating, spraying, and harvesting. While most regular workers have these skills, it does require that the new entrant into this work possess higher mechanical skills.

RECRUITMENT OF FARM WORKERS

A. Radio, television, newspaper publicity, letters, and posters were utilized by the local offices to obtain the maximum supply of local seasonal farm workers. Excellent results were obtained.

Six additional offices to the previous three local offices of last year's program conducted school registrations to recruit youth for work in sugar beets. Again the quotas were exceeded. During 1963, this technique and program will be used in all nine beet area offices; but plans are being formulated to streamline the program and eliminate, as far as possible, the problems which to some extent hampered the 1962 program.

Volunteer Farm Placement Representatives were used in each local office area. Where possible, VFPR's made placements from local sources, or transmitted unfilled orders to local offices for action. Farmers and ranchers were advised of their local VFPR through local newspapers, radio, posters, and by direct promotional mail from the local offices. While all VFPR's were not 100 per cent effective, it is planned to continue this activity in 1963.

As heretofore, the local labor supply was not sufficient to meet the demand for regular hired farm workers. Inter-office clearance was used for some occupations.

B. Montana Participated in the Annual Worker Plan

As an order-holding state, Montana received 342 scheduled crews and family heads involving 2,272 workers. On the basis of actual contacts with the crews and examination of the ES-369's, the services rendered are reflected in Table 4 of this report.

C. Montana recruited no Puerto Ricans; however, a small crew of Puerto Ricans are hired in the Dillon area each year through private sources.

D. 1. Housing

Two hundred fifty-two housing inspections were made. These cannot, however, be directly related to interstate recruitment. This is due to the fact that when inspections are made prior to occupancy, and until domestic recruitment is completed, it is not possible to determine whether housing will be occupied by domestic families or groups of single foreign workers. All housing is basically family type, on farm, necessitating a dual determination of suitability.

All agency inspections are made as a part of the regular program of field visiting. About 1,350 housing units are occupied at some time during the eight-week period that migratory labor is employed in large numbers.

State housing regulations are under the administration of the State Board of Health, Division of Environmental Sanitation. That agency limits participation in inspection, but the Department is ready to investigate complaints and does test water sources.

No difficulties have been encountered in arranging cooperation. There has not been any instance when, after attempts to secure improvement of unsatisfactory housing by other means, the State Board of Health has not taken appropriate action.

2. Wages

Ten wage field surveys were made. Domestic migrant workers are recruited for spring beet work. Minimum wage rates per acre are fixed by public hearing. Since there is no comparable activity before or during the period of recruitment, field surveys were made during the working period.

The wage rate per acre system of renumeration causes wage survey difficulties above those found in most piece rate surveys. Field surveys were supplemented by examination of payroll records of growers and local office orders.

E. Foreign Workers

Mexican National workers were brought in to supplement domestic workers in the sugar beet pre-harvest activities only. Most of the Mexican Nationals were used between May 10 and July 15. The peak employment was on June 15.

There were no organizational, administrative, or procedural changes, or special programs developed with respect to the use of Mexican Nationals. No problems were encountered.

In the pre-season process of surveying the expected supply and demand for seasonal farm labor, each local office considers trends in production, employment, the labor market, mechanization, and other factors expected to influence the requirements and supply of labor. Local office records, such as agricultural orders, ES-223 In-season Farm Labor Reports, and other records are utilized. Contacts are made with grower associations, processors, county agents, and other government agencies intererested in agriculture.

Ten wage surveys were made. The surveys were made in the field while the work was being performed. Wage rates paid contract Mexican Nationals were not included in the survey data. Iocal offices posted "Notices of Prevailing Wage Rates" in Post Offices and other public places in the area of jurisdiction where foreign workers were employed. The wage survey findings equaled or exceeded the U.S.D.A. rate of fair and reasonable wages.

AREA REDEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Lake, Ravalli, Carbon, and Roosevelt Counties are the rural development areas under the Area Redevelopment Act during the calendar year 1962. All seven Indian Reservations in the state are also included. The Montana State Employment Service assisted with community and reservation committees in developing an Overall Economic Development Plan. The plan was approved during 1962. The Montana Agency participated in special surveys of underemployment and unemployment in rural areas, as well as provided routine employment data to be used in economic plans for rural development.

There were no problems related to housing, transportation, wages, health and medical facilities, or food which have interfered with recruitment and placement of local or migratory workers.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

State and local office personnel participated in farm organization meetings, Chamber of Commerce, civic groups, and public schools to strengthen public understanding of the Agency's Farm Placement Program. Generally, the method is roundtable or informal discussion from the floor.

Newspaper, radio, and television are used to disseminate farm labor market information. All local offices regularly prepare news releases designed for listener and reader appeal.

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Placement totals increased from the preceding year due to plenty of moisture and a good growing and harvesting season, especially in the eastern two-thirds of the state which suffered drought conditions in 1961. Activities, especially in livestock and grain farming, were up from the preceding year.

The "Youth in Sugar Beets Program" was expanded considerably from three sugar beet areas in 1961 to nine sugar beet areas in 1962. This did not, however, reduce materially the use of supplemental foreign labor, but would have except for unusual growing conditions. As the problems are solved, it is expected it can and will, in time, replace the foreign labor program.

Every effort will be made to fully utilize local sources of labor, particularly in counties designated for rural development under the Area Redevelopment Act.

PART II
OUTLOOK FOR COMING YEAR

STATE FORECAST

The outlook on agricultural employment for Montana in 1963 is that employment is expected to be on par with 1962, pending similar weather conditions. However, since 1962 was a record moisture year, it could be that employment will decline perhaps to the extent of several hundred workers. Should moisture be sufficient, employment should not change to a significant degree. With usual winter conditions, the later part of the year, some pickup should occur in feeding operations.

AREA FORECAST
AREA 9-27.01
Western Fruit & Sugar Beets

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-27-01, Western Fruit and Sugar Beets (Flathead, Lake, Missoula, Ravalli, Granite, Powell, Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, Broadwater, and Meagher Counties).

The farm labor outlook for the coming year should be the same as for 1962, provided weather conditions are similar. Local and migratory labor should be available for all activities except sugar beet thinning and hoeing. Sugar beet acreage should be approximately the same, with some adjustments for youth crews which will be used to supplement the local and migratory workers.

The crop activities and approximate time periods involved are:

Soil preparation and seeding	April - May
Sugar beet thinning, hoeing, weeding	May - August
Haying	June - September
Irrigating	May - August
Small fruit harvest	July - August
Small grain harvest	August
Potato harvest	September
Sugar beet harvest	September - October
Livestock seasonal activities	January - December

AREA 9-27.02
Southern Sugar Beets

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-27.02, Southern Sugar Beet (Golden Valley, Musselshell, Stillwater, Yellowstone, Treasure, Carbon, and Big Horn Counties).

Again the weather will be the deciding factor. It is expected labor requirements will be near those of 1962. The supply and demand for labor in irrigated activities will be approximately the same as last year. Local and migratory labor is expected to meet demands in all activities except sugar beets. A portion of the demand will be met through youth groups in the thinning, hoeing, and weeding of sugar beets. Migrant domestic workers will be available for other states following the completion of thinning and hoeing of sugar beets in July.

The crop activities and approximate time periods involved:

Crop Activities	Periods Involved
Spring soil preparation and seeding	April - May
Sugar beet thinning, hoeing, weeding	May 15 - July 31
Haying	June - August
Irrigation	June - September
Fallowing	May - August
Small grain harvest	July - August
Sweet corn harvest	August 15 - September 15
Field corn harvest	August
Sugar beet harvest	September - October
Livestock seasonal activities	January - December

AREA 9-27.03
Lower Yellowstone Beet and Grain

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-27.03, Lower Yellowstone Beet and Grain (Garfield, McCone, Richland, Dawson, Prairie, Wibaux, Rosebud, Custer, Fallon, Powder River, and Carter Counties).

Should moisture content repeat that of 1962, employment requirements should be the same except there will be some adjustment on sugar beet acreages in the youth program. In irrigated areas there is little anticipated change. Local and migratory labor should be available for all activities except sugar beets.

The crop activities and approximate time periods involved are:

Crop Activities	Periods Involved
Spring soil preparation and seeding	April - May
Sugar beet thinning, hoeing, weeding	May - July
Haying	June - August
Irrigation	June - September
Fallowing	May - August

Crop Activities	Periods Involved
Small grain harvest	July - August
Sugar beet harvest	September - October
Livestock seasonal activities	January - December

AREA 9-27.04
Triangle and Highline Hardwheat

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-27.04, Triangle and Highline Hard Wheat (Teton, Choteau, Cascade, Judith Basin, Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Valley, Daniels, Roosevelt, and Sheridan Counties)

This is primarily a dryland wheat growing and livestock area. Should sufficient moisture be received as in 1962, the upsurge in employment will repeat. However, a dry year could make a difference. It is anticipated that local workers and voluntary in-migration of interstate workers will satisfy all demands for this area's activities.

It appears that the sugar beet acreage and the demand for labor will be the same as 1962.

The crop activities and approximate time periods involved are:

Crop Activities	Periods Involved
Spring soil preparation and seeding	April - May
Sugar beet thinning and hoeing	May - June
Haying	June - August
Irrigation	June - August
Small grain harvest	July - August
Fallowing	May - September
Sugar beet harvest	October
Livestock seasonal activities	January - December

ES-225--Table 1 (10/58) State MONTANA

Table 1. Selected Data on Farm Placement Operations in 1962

	Item	Number
	Section A. Day-Haul Activities	
1.	Operated by State agency:	
	a. Day-haul points	0
	b. Towns with day-haul points	0
	c. Sum of workers transported on average day in each town	0
	d. Sum of workers transported on peak day in each town	0
2.	Established (unsupervised by State agency:)	
	a. Day-haul points	0
	b. Towns with day-haul points	0
	c. Sum of workers transported on average day in each town	0
	d. Sum of workers transported on peak day in each town	0
	Section B. Services to School-age Youth	
3.	Towns in which separate school-age youth programs are operated	9
4.	Day-haul points operated separately for school-age youth	9
	a. Sum of school-age youth workers transported on peak day in each town	534
5.	Day-haul points established by State agency for school-age youth	0
6.	Supervised camps operated for school-age farm workers	0
	a. Placements in camp	0
7.	Placements of school-age youth in supervised live-in farm homes	0
	Section C. Services to other special groups	
8.	Services rendered to Indians by local offices or itinerant points on reservations:	
	a. Placements	2204
	b. Applicant holding acceptances	172
9.	Other placements of reservation Indians	1308
10.	Puerto Ricans brought into State under work contract	0
	Section D. Special Services to employers	
11.	Employers receiving combine services:	
	a. From out-of-area	113
	b. From out-of-state	307
12.	Employers receiving cotton-harvesting-machine services:	
	a. From out-of-area	0
	b. From out-of-state	0
13.	Food processing employers receiving placement services	29
	Section E. Other special services	
14.	Local offices which held farm clinics	0
15.	Days on which farm clinics were held	0
16.	Issues of farm labor bulletins published	38
	a. Copies distributed	10,000
17.	State agency's work guides distributed	500
	a. Within reporting State	250
	b. To other States	250
18.	Local offices participating in formal community service programs	68
19.	Volunteer farm placement representatives	167

Worksheet A. Day-haul activities, by town

[ ] 1. At points operated by State Agency

[X] 2. At points established (unsupervised) by State Agency

Towns	Number of Day-Haul Points		Number of Workers Transported		
				Peak Day	
	Total	School-Age Youth	Average Day	Total	School-Age Youth
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Billings	1	1	220	300	300
Sidney	1	1	14	25	25
Glendive	1	1	27	43	43
Miles City	1	1	19	32	32
Havre	1	1			
Missoula	1	1	40	60	60
Hamilton	1	1	15	21	21
Polson	1	1	12	24	24
Helena	1	1	11	19	19
			358	534	534

Table 2 (optional)--State Summary--Employment of Seasonal Hired Workers in Agriculture and Food Processing, and Agricultural Placements By Month, 1962.

Period 1/	Agricultural Employment				Agricultural Placements
	Total	Domestic		Foreign	
		Local	Non-Local		
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
January	1909	1806	103	0	263
February	2282	2125	157	0	423
March	3452	3096	356	0	1124
April	5838	4485	1353	0	2114
May	8516	5241	3275	0	4510
June	11746	5342	4399	2005	9387
July	12845	9044	3102	699	7175
August	11797	8452	3345	0	5528
September	7798	6162	1636	0	2285
October	5561	4848	713	0	2061
November	2519	2261	258	0	576
December	1777	1580	197	0	315

Table 3 (optional)--State Summary--Expected Use of Seasonal Hired Workers in Agriculture and Food Processing By Month, 1963

Period 1/	Expected Employment							Expected Surplus for Out-of-State Migration
	Agricultural				Food Processing			
	Total	Domestic		Foreign	Total	Local	Non-Local	
		Local	Non-Local					
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX
January	1915	1815	100	0				100
February	2300	2150	150	0				100
March	3450	3100	350	0				100
April	5790	4490	1300	0				50
May	8945	5245	3200	500				0
June	11845	5345	4300	2200				0
July	12870	9045	3100	725				700
August	11760	8460	3300	0				1500
September	7770	6170	1600	0				0
October	5550	4850	700	0				0
November	2520	2270	250	0				50
December	1780	1590	190	0				100

Table 4. Interstate Agricultural migrant activities in 1962

Section A. Migrant contacts		
Type	By reporting State	With reporting State's residents
I	II	III
1. Total	342	0
a. Crew Leaders..	129	0
b. Family Heads.	213	0
c. Other.....	0	0

Section B. Individuals represented	
Age and Sex	In Sec. A., Col. III
I	II
2. Total.....	0
a. Male, 16 & over.....	0
b. Female, 16 & over.....	0
c. Under 16.....	0

Section C. Worker Characteristics	
Type	Number
I	II
3. Families.....	550
4. Unattached males.....	224
5. Unattached females....	39

Section D. Services Rendered	
Type	Number
I	II
6. Total.....	342
a. Schedules by ES.....	342
b. Requests for action....	0
c. Other services.....	0
d. Validations.....	342
e. Information only.....	44

Section E. Summary of migratory movement by State

Home State		Last State in		Next State in	
State	Workers	State	Workers	State	Workers
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Total...	2272	Total...	2272	Total...	2272
Texas	2272	Texas	1992	Wisconsin	876
		Washington	92	Michigan	374
		Idaho	83	Colorado	257
		Oregon	52	Texas	237
		Ohio	30	California	101
		California	19	Indiana	96
		Arizona	4	Illinois	55
				Oregon	51
				Idaho	38
				Kansas	33
				Nebraska	30
				Washington	30
				Ohio	29
				Oklahoma	23
				Iowa	22
				Utah	10
				Minnesota	6
				Arizona	4

Table 5. Interstate Seasonal Agricultural Clearance Activities in 1962

Item	Orders		Openings	
	Extended (Sec. A) received (Sec. B)	Filled	Extended (Sec. A) received (Sec. B)	Filled
I	II	III	IV	V
Section A. Reporting State as Order-Holding State				
1. Reporting State, total.....	7	2	5781	2272
2. Applicant--holding States involved:				
Texas	6	2	5675	2272
Washington	1	0	106	0
Section B. Reporting State as Applicant-Holding State				
3. Reporting State, total.....	14	9	2530	1152
4. Order-holding States involved:				
Wisconsin	6	4	1250	816
Colorado	3	1	875	261
California	1	1	4	4
Ohio	2	1	45	15
Indiana	1	1	6	6
Illinois	1	1	350	50

Comments Section: The State of Montana transferred to Indiana over a hundred more workers than shown, but this could not be traced to 560-A Forms from that state. This is true also of California.

MONTANA CROP PRODUCTION - 1962

GOOD CROP YEAR - The aggregate 1962 crop harvest in Montana on a weight basis was 38 percent above the 1951-60 average. Crops were harvested from 8.2 million acres compared with 7.6 million in 1961 and the ten-year average of 8.9 million.

WHEAT OUTPUT REBOUNDS FROM 1961 - All wheat produced in Montana during 1962 totaled 78.3 million bushels, 45 percent above the drought-reduced 1961 crop but 14 percent below average. Acreage harvested was the lowest since 1942 primarily as a result of acreage controls, above normal hail losses, and abandonment from drought in several north central counties. Yield at 22.6 bushels per acre was 7.9 bushels above 1961 and 3.4 bushels above average. Winter wheat output at 37.1 million bushels was much less than expected because of heavier rust damage than indicated earlier in eastern counties. Also, abandonment was somewhat greater than predicted. Durum production at nearly 7 million bushels was the highest since 1957 and almost 5 times the previous year's crop. Other spring wheat totaled 34.2 million bushels, 2.5 times the 1961 crop. Yield per acre was the highest since 1915 and exceeded winter wheat for the first time since 1928 because of unusually favorable weather for spring wheat in the eastern part of the State.

RECORD HIGH BARLEY CROP - Barley totaled nearly 55 million bushels--a new record high and more than double the 1961 production. The oats crop at 10.8 million bushels was the largest since 1955.

RYE ABOVE AVERAGE - Rye production at 666,000 bushels was 2.5 times the ten-year average. Flaxseed produced this year totaled 210,000 bushels, nearly six-fold last year's crop but 39 percent below average.

IRRIGATED CROPS EXCEED NORMAL - Sugar beet production totaled 843,000 tons, 6 percent below the 1961 crop, but 17 percent above average. The crop was hampered by cool weather, and the yield of only 13.3 tons per acre was low compared to last year's 14.7 and the average of 14.1 tons. The potato crop is estimated at 1,248,000 cwt., down 13 percent from last year. The growing season was shortened by frosts in early September. This and a further reduction in acreage accounts for the decline. Production of dry beans was 14 percent above average as a result of both larger acreage and the second highest yield of record.

MOST SEED CROPS SHORT - The mustard seed crop was the smallest since 1954. It totaled 10,540,000 pounds, compared with 16,020,000 pounds last year. The decline is attributed to less contracting by dealers, and to droughty conditions in the main producing area. Production of alfalfa seed was equal to the lowest of record, and the red clover seed crop was the smallest ever harvested. Frost in early September prevented normal development of these seeds. In contrast, production of crested wheatgrass seed was 2.5 times the ten-year average.

RECORD HAY OUTPUT - Favorable weather resulted in the production of nearly 3.5 million tons of hay, a record high which exceeded the previous record of 3.2 million tons in 1927.

Courtesy of Statistical
Reporting Service, USDA

HOME FOR HELP—Al Deiderich has worked for the Dick O'Day ranch east of Great Falls 14 years. A good place to live is an inducement to work that many farmers and ranchers fail to think of as they go about looking for hands every year.

Poor Housing Causes Much Labor Turnover on Farms and Ranches

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1962

By R. O. YOUNG
Montana State Employment Service

Agricultural scientists seem to have as their chief aim, more production per acre with fewer workers, more bushels of grain per acre, more tons of hay per acre and more beef on the carcass in a shorter period of time. More and more of everything with less and less labor.

Each year sees the development of new labor saving machinery and new adaptation of old machines which mean a great saving of labor and money. Machines probably have been the greatest single factor in the trend toward bigger and better farms and the movement of small farm operators and seasonal farm workers into other industries.

Judging from reports, research and specifications placed on farm orders for workers, future farm labor requirements will lean increasingly toward trained and more highly skilled workers. The question is: "How are we going to hold this more highly skilled worker on the farm rather than losing him to a higher paying industry?"

We realize that it is a well known fact that the average farmer and rancher is limited to a maximum that he can budget for labor. This is primarily due to his not being able to pass any increased cost of operation on directly to the consumer as is true with private enterprise. His profits are more or less controlled by the supply and demand of his product and by government controls on agricultural production.

Therefore, where any increase in wages cannot be considered feasible, Mr. Farmer and Rancher is going to have to be able to

Continued on page 11

Good Wages, Housing Holds Help

(Continued From Page 10)

offer other incentives in order to maintain a higher class of farm help capable of helping him to operate his business with a minimum of expense and time.

In recent years records have been kept on reasons for excessive turnover of farm help in the Great Falls area. Reasons varied considerably, but the main reasons from the employe standpoint have been poor housing, low wages and in cases of good dependable and more skilled workers, poor equipment. Then from reports by employers, among other complains, the biggest was that most farmhands are "short timers" or stay on the job for short periods of time. This, of course, is very aggravating, especially when time is running short for crop activity involved. But here again it was noted that in addition to employe factors it was found that the majority of these problems arose when the above mentioned problems existed such as inadequate housing and substantial wages.

Adequate Housing

On the other hand it was found that those employers hiring for entire seasons or on a year-round basis who had little or no labor problems paid a standard scale or above They also had adequate housing for their help and their equipment was in good operating condition. Therefore, it proves by these demonstrated facts that good working conditions tend to hold better year-round workers for longer periods of time and cut down considerably on turn over of seasonal hired workers. In other words good pay, good food, good housing and good equipment will lessen most labor problems.

In 1947 the Montana State Employment Service absorbed the National Farm Emergency Labor program and has been continually striving to improve its services to both employer and employe. It has been noted that during the earlier years of its existence employer acceptance of the farm labor program was slow in catching on, but in recent years a remarkable increase was shown in farm placement activities by the local offices of the Montana State Employment Service.

Major Factor

A recent survey conducted by a Montana newspaper revealed that a considerable number of agricultural employers still did not use the facilities of the Montana State Eemployment Service, but utilized help procured from local bars and streets. Possibly this is a major factor of complaints by employers that good help is hard to find. Our local employment personnel has taken pride in our methods of registration, selection and recruitment of migrant agricultural workers. A detailed description of all types of equipment the applicant is capable of operating is kept on his registration for easy referral by both the office and employer.

Selection of the applicant is made in accordance with the type of work involved, working and living conditions and wages involved. Recruitment of workers is made not only between offices within the state by TWX or phone but also through our central Helena office to all neighboring states if the need should warrant it.

GOOD WAGES, HOUSING HOLDS HELP

Kitchen Class - A good home means comforts and conveniences in the kitchen, too, something which is not lacking in the Deiderich home. Employment service officials have found that one reason ranchers and farmers have a hard time keeping men is because of inadequate places to live.

Neat - The outside of the bunkhouse on the Gray ranch is kept painted and neat. Some of the men that stay here have worked for him each season for 11 years. His cook has worked there for 12 years.

Comforts - Easy chairs, television and a desk make a comfortable home for anyone. Al Deidrich has a good home on the O'Day Ranch.

Bunkhouse - This is the interior of the bunkhouse on the George Gray farm northwest of Carter. Here is a place a man can rest easy after a hard day's work.

OCAL STUDENTS WORKING ON NEW SUMMER EMPLOYMENT PLAN

Gordon Haugen, who farms just East of Lohman, discusses progress ith Tom Kuka, Havre Employment Office manager as the crews ork in his sugar beet fields. Gordon was well pleased with the work eing done by the local students.

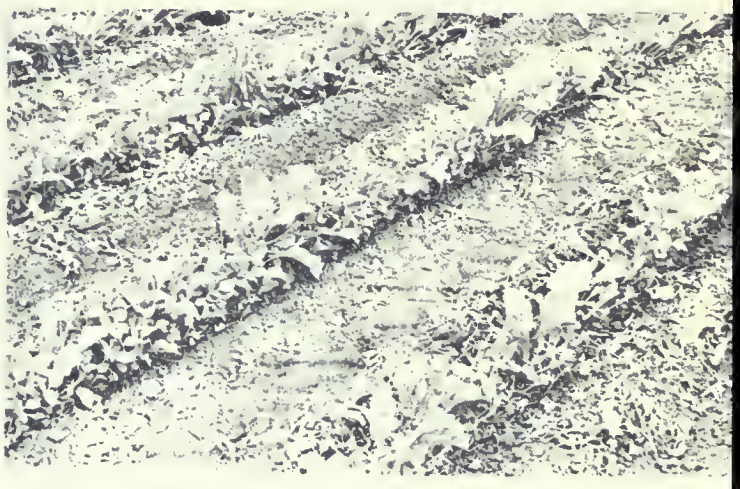
A group of around forty high school students from Havre, and another group from Chinook are working in agricultural field work this summer as the result of a plan evolved by the US Employment Service, and instrumented at a local level by Havre Employment Office manager, Tom Kuka.

The students, formed into work crews of twenty each under the superivision of a foreman, are presently engaged in cultivating the sugar beet fields in the area. They are transported from Havre to the job site each day by buses furnished by a local sugar company Here they are weeding and thinning the sugar beet crop.

When the group arrives at a new field, the foreman assigns each individual his rows to be worked. These rows are staked, and the name of the person working them is placed on the stake. The group will return later in the season to re-work the field, and each one will work the rows he worked previously. The boys are doing a good job, as is evidenced by the neat appearance of the field when they have completed their work. It isn't the easiest job in the world, and a few tired backs and muscles were evident the first few days of the project. But young muscles harden rapidly.

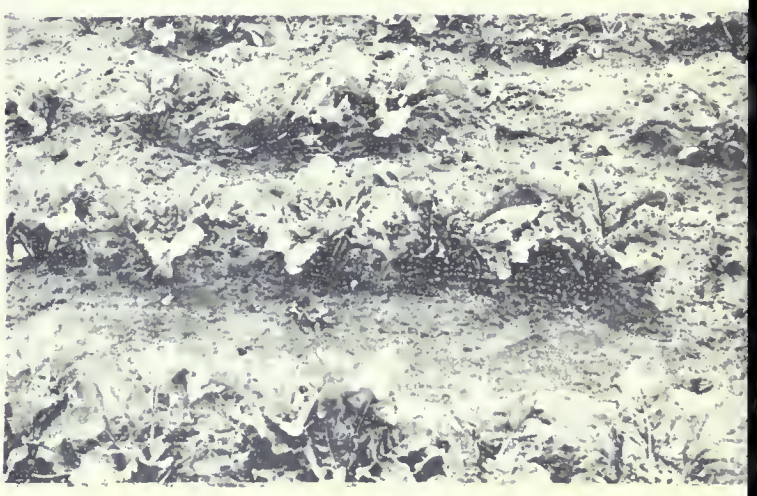
This employment program has been initiated by the Employment Service in several states, as well as here in Montana, as a means to provide healthful, productive employment for our young people during the summer months. To date it appears that the program is proceeding well, and both the youngsters and the farmers for whom they are working are well pleased with the project.

A part of the crew of over forty that were hard at work in the elds during our visit. The boys were working at a good steady ce, spurred onby banter back and forth between them as tye hoed.



BEFORE the rows are worked over, they look like this, with wee appearing among the plants, and the plants themselves too close t gether for proper growth.

f course a fellow does have to rest his back as he approaches end of a row. After their first week in the fields, the youngsters l that the work wasn't "too bad at all."



AFTER being worked over, the plants are now weed-free and spaced at the proper interval to assure a good healthy crop.

Sweet Corn Contracts Signed

rn Canning Co. has virtu-
pleted signing contracts
vers for the Billings plant.

ge will be about the
s last year, or approxi-
550 acres of sweet corn
small acreage of pump-
ohn Vashler, fieldman,
contracting about 25
Monday.

growers, representing
per cent of Big Horn's
eage, were guests of com-
ficials at a luncheon at
nning and field operations,
tlook and plans for corn
scussed.

Bailey of the Montana
nent Service office re-
the labor outlook. Bailey
hler expect to start con-
laborers in about a week.

growers representing a
80 seasons growing for
mpany were honored as
lest growers. Fred Plath
own corn for the plant
933 and Adam Beckle and
Hinkle since 1935.

company officials attend-
re Reynold Peterson and
Peterson of Cowley, Wyo.,
Billings factory superin-
Newell Johnson.

* * *

BS FOR YOUTH"
IN AGRICULTURE
(Minimum Age 14)

evening sessions for registration
ngs students for summer employ-
in agriculture will be conducted
Billings office of the
MONTANA STATE
PLOYMENT SERVICE

TIME 7:00 P.M.
DATES
Tuesday—March 27
Wednesday—March 28
Located at
624 North 24th Street
(No Fee Charged)

Youth Crews For Area Beet Work Being Organized

Plans for organizing youth crews for sugar beet thinning and hoeing work in the Sidney area for the coming season were announced today.

The successful completion of a pilot crew last year made it possible to enlarge the program to include several crews this year.

In announcing the program, Howard Sarbu, manager Sidney Employment Office said, the youth in sugar beet program serves a two fold purpose. 1. Local farmers can have a dependable source of workers without incurring the high cost of recruiting and transportation costs plus the expense of providing and furnishing housing.

2. Youngsters in need of a job will have an opportunity to work outdoors in a healthy, non-hazardous occupation that will keep them busy during the summer months and provide them with income to be used to purchase needed items or help towards their college tuition funds.

Sarbu said present plans call for three groups of 20 youth each to be formed in the Sidney and Fairview area. More groups may be formed later, if needed. Boys and girls from the age 14 and up will be accepted in the program. They will be paid on a piece rate basis, the same as other workers, and will be supervised by trained adults from the community.

The project is being worked in cooperation with local high schools.

Applications are being accepted by the Sidney Employment office and interested youths should register as soon as possible.

Parents who are interested in having their youngster find employment in sugar beet work are urged to call the office and discuss the program.

GOOD SUNTAN CHANCE

Students May Sign For Beet Field Jobs

Signup starts Monday—blisters and dollars come later.

A pilot program of using high school students to hoe sugar beets which worked fairly successfully last summer will be expanded greatly this year.

The Montana Employment Service last summer kept a supervised crew of 20 high school students working during beet thinning in the Hardin area. Some Billings students worked at least part of the season on an individual basis.

"We visualize three or four hundred students active, or some 10 to 12 per cent of those over 14," said MES Manager Clarence H. Nybo.

One crew will work for Holly Sugar Corp. beet growers in the Hardin area, but most will come from Senior, West and Central high schools in Billings and work for growers for Great Western Sugar Co., Nybo said.

Central High School students will start signing up at 8:15 a.m. Monday.

The MSES office at 624 N. 24th St. will be opened at 7 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday for Billings and West high school students to sign up.

The students must have consent of their parents. All crews will be supervised, and will be all boys or all girls, it was announced. The students will not be in the same fields with Mexican nationals brought here for beet thinning.

Last year 22 North Dakota student crews made up of 697 students hoed 23,690 acres of beets and earned $28,000, Nybo said. He said 71 per cent of the North Dakota youths were boys.

Best workers are boys or girls of 15 to 16, with those of 14 rated next, experience in other states showed. These have little chance at other jobs. There will be 2,000 Billings students seeking jobs this summer, Nybo said.

Students are paid the same rate, on piece-work basis, as Mexican nationals or any beet field labor. The students work about six hours, and are expected to do about half the work Mexicans average in a much longer day.

A work day of 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. has worked well in most areas to keep young workers out of fields in the heat of the day—and give them time for recreation.

One girl who joined the Hardin crew late in the season last year averaged $9 per day, doing as well as the top boys.

"As a rule of thumb, those who want to work after breaking in earn $25 to $30 a week for six, six-hour days, or roughly $5 to $7 per day," Nybo said.

The students use long-handled hoes. There is no more stooping all day, the employment officer said.

Great Falls Tribune 13
Saturday, March 10, 1962

Experienced Farm Hands In Demand

The demand for experienced farm and ranch hands will exceed the supply this spring, Manager Ted Lebsock of the Montana State Employment Service in Great Falls predicted Thursday.

"During the past two weeks calving and lambing operations have been getting underway and the demad for experienced men is expected to increase rapidly," Lebsock said.

He reported more demand for married couples this year, as farmers and ranchers find married workers more stable.

Hiring for field activities on dry land operations will begin about March 15 and continue until May 1, with the heaviest hiring falling between April 1 and April 15.

Lebsock urged farm operators who anticipate hiring additional labor for the season to place their orders early.

Orders may be submitted directly to the state employment office at 1000 1st Ave. S., or by calling 453-0351.

In more remote areas, the Volunteer Farm Representative may be contacted.

Montana Farm Labor Bulletin

FARM PLACEMENT DIVISION
MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

U.C.C. Building — Helena, Montana
Phone 442-3260 — Ext. 633
TWX HL 1931

September 18, 1962 Number 24

STATE SUMMARY: Main activities are sweet corn picking, corn cutting, bean harvest, haying, summer fallowing, rock picking, seeding, grain harvest in scattered areas, baling straw, fencing, irrigating, and corn silage plus general farm work and livestock care. Shortages exist for truck drivers for coming beet harvest and farm hands in Havre area. Helena and Billings could use extra farm help. Warm days and cool nights prevail. Range feed supplies are adequate in all areas of Montana as below normal summer temperatures and ample moisture have favored growth. Stock water is adequate with good hay and grain supplies. Livestock is in excellent condition.
Crop conditions change rapidly. Contact the nearest local office before leaving area.

WESTERN

ANACONDA: Main activity is general range work. No shortages or surplus at the present time. Weather has been seasonal. Potato harvest scheduled for next week.
BUTTE: Major activities are finishing and cutting of hay and general farm work. No shortages and very little surplus of workers. Expect some potato work next two weeks.
DILLON: Weather has been hot and dry, main activities are fencing, irrigating and haying. Potato harvest will start 9-19-62. No shortages or surplus of workers.
HAMILTON: Some haying, corn picking, silage cutting, early spud picking. Wages $1.00 to $1.25 hour. Present time, labor surplus. Weather nice - warm days, cool nights. Expect spud harvest full force 9-24-62.
HELENA: Current activities include winter wheat seeding, soil preparation, windup of haying and harvest and general ranch maintenance. Wages $6 to $8 a day plus B&R. Weather cool, occasional day to day shortages of qualified ranch help.
KALISPELL: Main activities are fall seeding and summer fallowing. Grain harvest virtually complete. Mustard being harvested at present. Wages $1.00 to $1.50 per hour. No shortage or surplus of workers. Weather clear and cool.
POLSON: Activity includes general farm clearing ground, fall seeding, fencing and rock picking.
MISSOULA: Activities include remants of haying, fall seeding, general farm and ranch maintenance. Wages remain same. $125 to $150 month plus B&R for single and $200 to $250 month plus house for couples. Supply meeting demand at this time. Weather cool at night and warm days.

SOUTH CENTRAL

BILLINGS: Billings main activities are sweet corn picking. Field corn cutting, bean harvest, summer fallowing and haying. Shortages are 1 single ranch hand - $150 month, B&R. and 1 single farm hand for irrigated farm $175 to $200 DOE plus B&R. The weather the past week has been good for all ag. activities.
LIVINGSTON: Agricultural activity mainly haying and soil preparation. Some harvesting remains but demand for workers very light. Supply of farm and ranch couples increasing. Transient workers meeting demand. Weather ideal for all farm and ranch work.
LEWISTOWN: Main activities include grain harvest, seeding and haying. Shortage still exists for general farm hands, wages same. Wheat harvest near 80-85% complete, no shortage of harvest help.

BOZEMAN: Current activities are combining, soil preparation and seeding of winter wheat, baling and piling straw bales, some haying. Short 15 single farm hands for handling baled hay, straw and general farm operations. Wages at $1 to $1.25 per hour plus B&R. Weather this past week was fair which allowed haying and grain harvest to be resumed the latter part of the week. No migrant farm labor movement this past week. Winter wheat harvest about 65% completed, spring wheat about 30%, barley about 50%, oats about 20% and second cutting of alfalfa 90%.

NORTH CENTRAL

CUT BANK: Harvest 85% complete with excess of men. Main activities rock picking and summer fallowing. Wages the same.

GLASGOW: Main activities are haying and summer fallowing. Short 6 qualified farm hands for haying and general ranch work. Wages $8-10 per day $175-200 per month.

GREAT FALLS: Typical fall weather has encouraged completion of outside activities. Demands for seasonal labor has been mostly to stack straw bales, seeding and summer fallowing and general ranch work. Also moving stock, fence repair, etc. Potato picking to commence about Oct. 1. Wages running from $8 to $10 per day with B&R. on a daily basis to $150 to $200 on a monthly basis. Supply of farm hands meeting demand.

HAVRE: Main activities winter wheat seeding, summer fallowing, wind up of haying and fall clean up work. Weather past week warm and cool. Wages $8 to $10 per day with B&R and short 5 general farm hands.

SHELBY: Summer fallowing, seeding and baling of straw main activities. Some late harvest. No shortages of labor. Wages the same.

WOLF POINT: Bale hauling, rock picking and summer fallowing are activities requiring labor at this time. Duration of jobs range from temporary to two months. $1.00 per hour to $200 per month depending on duration and extras furnished.

EASTERN:

GLENDIVE: Major activities--preparation for beet harvest, sowing of winter wheat and corn silage harvest. Weather cool and dry. Short five truck drivers for corn silage harvest and sugar beet harvest. Wages $10 per day.

MILES CITY: Haying, soil preparation, summer fallowing and seeding of winter wheat main activities. Beet harvest scheduled to begin next Monday. Labor supply balanced.

SIDNEY: Main activities are corn silage harvest and winter wheat seeding. Both about 90% completed. New activities are potato picking and safflower harvest. Demand for farm hands has dropped some. Short five general farm hands. Wages $8 per day. Beet harvest will start soon. Short two truck drivers. Wages $10 per day.

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Montana Farm Labor Bulletin

FARM PLACEMENT DIVISION
MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

U.C.C. Building — Helena, Montana
Phone 442-3260 — Ext. 633
TWX HL 1931

August 10, 1962 — WHEAT HARVEST BULLETIN — Number 6

STATE SUMMARY: The harvest well under way. Running 30% complete in some areas to 75% complete in others. Surplus of machines and men in several areas. No machine shortage in any area. Slight shortage of harvest hands in far eastern section of state. Sporatic adverse weather conditions causing some delays. Crop conditions change rapidly. Contact the nearest local office before leaving area.

NORTH CENTRAL:

HAVRE: 416 First St. Phone 265-4366--Harvest of small grains continuing, but slow and spotty. Weather warm and partly cloudy. Close to 50% complete on Winter wheat and barley. Harvest will probably run til end of August. Sufficient Custom Cutters and Harvest help. Wages remain the same.

TRIANGLE AND WEST NORTH CENTRAL:

CUT BANK: 116 East Main St. Phone 938-2191--Combining still scattered. Expect to pick up the first of the week. Barley yields 20 bushel per acre, test weights 47 to 50 pounds. Yields on wheat low, approximately 20 bushel per acre and test weights 60 to 62 pounds. Labor supply adequate and wages are the same.

GREAT FALLS: 1000 First Avenue South Phone 453-0351--Intermittent showers with cool cloudy weather has curtailed grain harvest activities. Most operators harvesting on a part-time basis. No demands for custom cutters and no immediate calls for custom equipment in near future due to uneven ripening of grain. Surplus of machines and men in Dutton and Fort Benton areas. Approximately 30 percent of harvest completed in Dutton area and 5 percent in Power area. Harvest approximately 25 percent cut in scattered portions of Fort Benton area.

SHELBY: 402 First St. South Phone 434-5575---Combining picking up as grain ripens, approximately 10 to 15 percent harvested. Winter wheat yields from 5 to 22 bushel per acre, 61 to 62½ pounds per acre. Barley 10 to 30 bushel per acre with 39 pound average per acre. Labor supply adequate. No change in wages.

SOUTH CENTRAL:

BILLINGS: 624 North 24th St. Phone 252-5631--Grain harvest in this area is about 30 percent completed at this time. The weather conditions have been ideal the past week however a heavy rain today has stopped all harvest activities. There are no changes since the last report and no shortage of custom units or harvest hands at this time.

LEWISTOWN: 324 West Broadway Phone 538-3286--Extra moisture last night and today prevailing harvest activities. No shortage of harvest help at present. Wages remain the same.

NORTHEAST:

GLASGOW: 238 Second Ave. South Phone 228-9369--Harvest interrupted temporarily due to shower activity. Reports of some scattered hail damage in Larslan, Richland, Avondale community. Adequate men and machines at present. Harvest of small grain approximately 30 per cent complete in southern one third of county, and progressing slowly due to uneven ripening.

WOLF POINT: 314 Main St. Phone 237--Weather cool and cloudy, scattered showers this morning. Small surplus of harvest hands and machines. Harvest of spring wheat should begin next week in several areas.

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